

EDWARDSIA COSTA, 1834 (ARTHROPODA, CRUSTACEA):
PROPOSED SUPPRESSION UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS
WITH CONSERVATION OF *EDWARDSIA* DE QUATREFAGES,
1841 AND EDWARDSIIDAE ANDRES, 1881 (COELENTERATA:
ACTINIARIA). Z.N.(S.) 2261

By R.B. Williams (2 Carrington Place, Tring, Herts. HP23 5LA)

The genus-group name *Edwardsia* has been proposed in five separate publications for various taxa (see Neave, 1939a: 197). The senior homonym, *Edwardsia* Costa, 1834, was long ago synonymized with *Sapphirina* Thompson, 1829, the name of a poecilostomatoid copepod (see Giesbrecht, 1892: 618).

2. The oldest junior homonym, *Edwardsia* de Quatrefages, 1841, on the other hand, has been used regularly up to the present time: it is the name of one of the largest genera of sea-anemones known (see Carlgren, 1949) and the type genus of the family EDWARDSIIDAE Andres, 1881 (:333). [Furthermore, the genus has given its name to the transient *Edwardsia* stage which in many anemone species is characteristic of actinian ontogeny, since the arrangement of the larval mesenteries is that of the eight macronemes of an adult *Edwardsia*. The term '*Edwardsia* stage' has been in use continuously since the last century (McMurrich, 1889; Duerden, 1899; Stephenson, 1928; Riemann-Zürneck, 1976) and has become well established, together with the genus *Edwardsia* as a morphological type of simple actinian, in student text-books (Bourne, 1900; Hickson, 1906; Hyman, 1940; Borradaile, Eastham, Potts and Saunders, 1961).]

3. When the genus *Edwardsia* de Quatrefages, 1841 was established, no nominal species were included. The first nominal species to be referred to the genus were *E. beautempsii* de Quatrefages, 1842 (:69), *E. timida* de Quatrefages, 1842 (:70) and *E. harassi* de Quatrefages, 1842 (:71). Carlgren (1949) subsequently designated *E. beautempsii* as the type species.

4. Thus the little-used and now synonymized *Edwardsia* Costa, 1834 threatens the established usage of *Edwardsia* de Quatrefages, 1841. Confusion would be caused by the use of a replacement name for *Edwardsia* de Quatrefages, 1841, since this well-established genus-group name would fall out of use and, incidentally, the term '*Edwardsia* stage' would be rendered apparently illogical. The latter point, though not covered by the Code, is important to physiologists. Furthermore, standard student text-

books referring to *Edwardsia* as a morphological type would no longer have currency.

5. The family-group name EDWARDSIIDAE Andres, 1881 (originally published as EDWARDSIDAE) is invalid since the name of its nominal type genus, *Edwardsia* de Quatrefages, 1841, is a junior homonym. The replacement of such a well known family name would cause considerable confusion amongst both systematists and physiologists.

6. Nomenclatural stability would best be served by the following suggested actions. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is requested:

- (1) to use its plenary powers to suppress the genus-group name *Edwardsia* Costa, 1834 for the purposes both of the Law of Priority and the Law of Homonymy.
- (2) to place the genus-group name *Edwardsia* de Quatrefages, 1841 (gender feminine), type species by subsequent designation by Carlgren (1949) *E. beautempsii* de Quatrefages, 1842, on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology.
- (3) to place the specific name *beautempsii* de Quatrefages, 1842, as published in the binomen *Edwardsia beautempsii* (specific name of type species of *Edwardsia* de Quatrefages, 1841) on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.
- (4) to place the family-group name EDWARDSIIDAE Andres, 1881, type genus *Edwardsia* de Quatrefages, 1841, on the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology.
- (5) to place the genus-group name *Edwardsia* Costa, 1834, as suppressed under the plenary powers in (1) above, on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology.

7. The question of the availability of the name *Milnea* Reichenbach in Wright, 1866 (:782) requires consideration here. It was listed by Neave (1940: 176) as a replacement name for *Edwardsia* de Quatrefages, 1841 and, if available, it would require to be suppressed concomitantly with the conservation of *Edwardsia* de Quatrefages. Furthermore, if available, it would invalidate the junior homonym *Milnea* Lydekker, 1891, a name long used for a genus of fossil birds (Lambrecht, 1933: 530; Brodkorb, 1967: 203; Cracraft, 1972: 41-43). However, *Milnea* Reichenbach, 1866 is not available under the present Code since Wright (1866) merely cited the proposed replacement name apparently without accepting it as a substitute for *Edwardsia* de Quatrefages and without giving any bibliographical indication as required by the Code. I have been

unable to find any publication before 1891 in which Reichenbach or any other author made *Milnea* Reichenbach an available name: therefore it does not require suppression and *Milnea* Lydekker is a potentially valid name.

8. The three youngest homonyms of *Edwardsia* have had the following replacement names proposed (see Neave, 1939a: 197, 323, 351; Neave, 1939b: 676; Neave, 1940: 769): *Pisanella* Koenen, 1865(a) for *Edwardsia* Koenen, 1865(b) (Mollusca: Gastropoda); *Eupseudomorpha* Dyar, 1893 for *Euedwardsia* Kirby, 1892 for *Edwardsia* Neumoegen, 1880 (Arthropoda: Lepidoptera) [The replacement name *Euedwardsia* Kirby, 1892 was preoccupied by *Euedwardsia* Grote, 1882 (Arthropoda: Lepidoptera).]; *Chattendenia* Tutt, 1908 for *Edwardsia* Tutt, 1907 (Arthropoda: Lepidoptera) [Volume 9 of J.W. Tutt's *Natural History of the British Lepidoptera* is identical to and was published simultaneously with Volume 2 of his *Natural History of British Butterflies*. The dates on the title pages of both works give incomplete information but the actual dates of publication were clarified by Townsend and England (1938).]

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